

# How to Pray for Zero

Did you know that more than 1 billion people still don't have the full Bible in their own language, and millions still don't have a single verse? Together, we pray for those numbers to reach Zero. *In this generation.*

## Start with This Prayer

*Jesus, speed up and empower the Bible translation movement. Rescue the nations out of darkness with the light of your Word.*

**Watch video:** [Imagine Zero](#)

## Join the Day-By-Day Journey to Zero

Every week, travel to a different region of the world in prayer. Use this daily guide to pray strategically and effectively for each step of Bible translation:

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
People with No Scripture	Partners in Ministry	Translation Projects	Teachers and Trainers	Kingdom Impact

Thank you for joining us! Together, our prayers can add up to Zero.

<b>Get More Resources:</b>	<b>Join Global Prayer Room:</b>
<a href="#">Pray for Zero</a>	<a href="#">Unceasing Prayer</a>

# Islands Asia

Islands Asia includes just three countries, but there is a great concentration of need within these islands. Some areas have strong, vibrant churches, while others have very few, if any, known believers.

## Pray for Those Still Waiting for a Single Verse of Scripture\*

People	Languages
1,959,015	273

*\*According to ProgressBible™. SNAPSHOT. January 2024. Estimates differ between organizations, and numbers shift as new needs are discovered or languages fall out of use.*

PARTNERS	STRENGTHS	CHALLENGES
We are grateful to partner with more than 17 ministries and organizations in Islands Asia, not including some consultants.	National Bible translation partners are growing in strength and leadership. Church and business leaders alike are seeing the importance of Bible translation in reaching the lost.	One country in this region has the largest number of remaining Bibleless languages in the world. Yet in some areas, it is illegal to share the gospel. Pastors have been kidnapped, put in prison, and even killed.

*\*Asterisks indicate when a pseudonym or general region is being used due to security risks.*

# Regional Praise

## Pasil Guina-Ang Kalinga New Testament Dedication in the Philippines

In an area of the Philippines where people often turn to both Jesus and local shamans, Bible translators are working to give everyone access to Scripture in their own language. Years ago, one local government worker said, “When the Bible is available in my language, may it be seen in every household.” After more than 70 years of waiting, this hope is becoming possible for 10,000 Pasil Guina-ang Kalinga speakers.

### **PRAISE**

For the local government, who allowed the dedication to take place on their annual Bible Sunday celebration. People are now reading from the New Testament daily on the local radio station! These are answers to our prayers [last October](#).

### **PRAY**

For all Kalinga people to trust in Jesus and his grace alone through knowledge of his Word.

# Monday

*And then he told them, "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."*

—Mark 16:15 (NLT)

## PRAY FOR A BIBLELESS PEOPLE GROUP

### The Tubal\* People of Islands Asia

The 130,000 Tubal people live on several islands. As you might expect, they're excellent sailors, routinely traveling all over the region, even as far as Australia. They also make their own distinctive boats.

#### PRAY

For God to have mercy on the majority-Muslim Tubal people and reveal himself to them through his Word. Like the ancient Ninevites, they comprise "more than 120,000 people who cannot tell their right hand from their left" (Jonah 4:11).

#### PRAISE

For one of our field partners who is eager to start a Bible storytelling project among the Tubal people, prayerfully this spring. Stories will be drawn from Old Testament books including Genesis, Exodus, Samuel, and Kings (which tend to be better to start with among Muslims, who already respect many Old Testament prophets).

### Pray Now

For the DeSuTu [Cluster project](#), which is currently working with 6 languages in Islands Asia! Five well-qualified local people have recently shown interest in joining the team. If they work out, they'll be able to help not only this project, but future projects as well. [Learn more about the DeSuTu Cluster project, which we prayed for last year.](#)

# Tuesday

*God will do this, for he is faithful to do what he says, and he has invited you into partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.*

—1 Corinthians 1:9 (NLT)

## PRAY FOR PARTNERS

### Kartidaya in Indonesia

Kartidaya firmly believes that Indonesia can be changed when the Bible is heard and received! This nonprofit organization was started in 1989 with a vision to reach the neglected language and people groups of Indonesia.

## PRAISE

- Kartidaya partnered with Seed Company and local churches to launch Bible translation in nine languages in 2023. For seven of them, this will be the first Scripture they've ever received.
- For Kartidaya's focus in recent years on partnering with and mobilizing local churches to help carry the burden of bringing his Word to all corners of Indonesia!

## PRAY

- For God to guide Kartidaya as they help increase local church ownership for deepening discipleship and promoting sustainability in the Bible translation movement.

## Pray Now

For total healing for a member of the Beseru\* translation team who has been battling ongoing health issues, and for wisdom for the team as they consider finding another translator to help. This team is working to give Beseru people, who are only 10% Christian, the first Scripture they've ever received in their language.

# Wednesday

*And don't be concerned about what to eat and what to drink. Don't worry about such things. These things dominate the thoughts of unbelievers all over the world, but your Father already knows your needs. Seek the Kingdom of God above all else, and he will give you everything you need.*

—Luke 12:29-31 (NLT)

*Jadik, agok lah èd-id, dak agok lah selaluk bebèdlod ilok rik nyob géy bok nyob òng. Kaum-kaum mòy èn duniak rik tok umkèlnal Allah selaluk umbèdlod hal-hal gerèk doh. Tapik Tuhan Apak nyob nalèkh ma nyob nyomperlu kenèmbek nak. Tapik kèk lah nèng-nèng Keraja'an Allah, dak kenèmbek rik nyob perlu nak akal natabeh ke'jèk ma nyob.*

—Luk 12:29-31 (Timber\*, a language in Islands Asia)

## PRAY FOR AN ACTIVE TRANSLATION PROJECT

### Timber\* in Islands Asia

Throughout this project, the Timber team has witnessed the incredible impact of translated Scripture on their community. Access to the Word has strengthened the faith of Christian brothers and sisters in the Timber churches and aided in efforts to evangelize in new villages. God has richly answered our prayers in [May 2023](#) for the team!

## A Testimony from the Timber Team

As the team wrapped up the consultant checking of Acts, one Timber speaker shared what the stories in this new book meant to her:

"I really liked that Paul was not worried or afraid, but he was brave in talking to others about Jesus. We saw the way Paul lived before he met Jesus—he was the same as Timber people; he didn't believe. But once Jesus spoke to him, he repented, and he didn't just want to change his own life, but also share with everyone else. My hope and prayer is that our people who don't believe will also meet Jesus, like Paul. Thank you for all you do to help our team learn God's Word and translate it into our language."

### PRAY

- That Timber church leaders will use their new Scriptures and encourage their churches to use them.
- For God's protection over the whole team as we carry on this work in sensitive, sometimes hostile, territory.
- For the salvation of many Timber people through hearing the Good News in their heart language!

### PRAISE

- For the completion of Acts. The printed copies will be distributed to the community soon.
- The [LUMO](#) Gospel film for Luke is complete and available to the community. The first screening was a great success!

# Thursday

*Their responsibility is to equip God's people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ.*

—Ephesians 4:12 (NLT)

## EQUIPPING THE SAINTS

### Church Ownership of Bible Translation in Indonesia

Churches in Indonesia have long *supported* Bible translation, but praise God for one large church network's increasing *ownership* and *leadership*!

The Christian Evangelical Church in Minahasa ([GMIM](#)) has 1,066 churches with membership approaching 1 million people. Its leaders are aware of the need for Bible translation in missions and have attended and hosted multiple Bible translation activities.

One church leader has said several times that "Bible translation is not an optional service for the church, but the church must be actively involved in Bible translation."

## PRAISE

- God is answering our prayers from [March 2023](#)! The partnership between GMIM and Seed Company produced dozens of Bible translation programs in just one fiscal year.
- Through this partnership, more than 70 Indonesian people are being trained in different areas of Bible translation in 2024.

## Praise God!

Four worship songs, based on translated Scripture, have been composed in the Lolengi\* language of Islands Asia! May these songs help Lolengi believers deepen their walks with the Lord. The Lolengi people are in the process of receiving the first-ever portions of Scripture in their language.



# Friday

*Rise up, O Lord, in all your power. With music and singing we celebrate your mighty acts*  
—Psalm 21:13 (NLT)

## IMPACT STORY

### Kobas\* People Celebrate Receiving the New Testament

At the end of 2022, [we prayed for the Kobas team](#) as they finalized their New Testament. Praise God that the New Testament has been published!

During a dedication celebration to commemorate this milestone, people made hundreds of bags out of red, white, and black string to hand out, symbolizing coming out of darkness into the light through the blood of Jesus. Receiving the New Testament in their language helps them understand that the God of the universe sees, values, and longs to know them as a people.

## PRAISE

Local churches are actively using the Kobas New Testament.

## PRAY

For our local partners as they hold Scripture-based literacy classes and search for people with good voices to record the New Testament and make the “JESUS” film in their language.

## Pray Now

For the Pamay\* team of Islands Asia as they distribute and promote translated Scripture, with accompanying Sunday school materials, among local churches. Ask God to strengthen relationships between the team and local churches through this effort. Pamay is spoken by about 1.5 million people.

# This Just In

## MORE RECENT PRAYER UPDATES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Please pray for safety for translation teams in Papua New Guinea, which has been in a state of emergency for two weeks after massive rioting and looting in the capital city and another major city. [Here is a video that outlines what happened.](#)

— from the Seed Company Pacific Team

Pray for translators who have received visits from officials after being reported by other local people who want to stop their ministries. Pray that they will continue to be faithful even in persecution and for any plots of the enemy to be stopped in the name of Jesus.

— from the Seed Company Mainland Asia team

Praise God that Iljae, the translation advisor, has recovered from a long respiratory illness. Pray for her mother's Parkinson's disease to improve, and praise God that translation work continues successfully through Zoom after Iljae moved back to Korea.

— from the Wampar team in Papua New Guinea

Praise God that trial copies of Mark's Gospel have been distributed in the village, and senior translators have drafted portions of Luke and Matthew! Pray for people to actively engage with these Scriptures.

— from the Diodio team in Papua New Guinea

Praise God that we've gotten through Genesis 12 and tested Exodus for clarity and accuracy in surrounding communities.

— from the Nomatsigenga team in Peru

Praise God for peace in the region after long and sometimes violent protests against the change in presidents. Pray for wisdom to translate effectively and clearly, and for the people we check the Scriptures with to give helpful feedback.

— from the Aimara del Sur team in Peru